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imagery analysis report

Expansion of Facilities and Order-of-Battle Increase in the Pacific Fleet, USSR, 1975–1980 (S)

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EXPANSION OF FACILITIES AND ORDER-OF-BATTLE INCREASE IN THE PACIFIC FLEET, USSR, 1975-1980 (S)

1. (S/D) Since 1975, there has been a gradual but significant construction effort to expand Pacific Fleet facilities in the USSR (Figures 1, 2, and 3). This construction involves the repair facilities, shipyards, operational bases, and weapons storage facilities. Historically, new construction, especially of new storage bunkers, new piers, or additional buildings/barracks, has been the first indication of the probable home port for vessels under construction or transferring fleets. Additionally, changes in weapons storage facilities have often been an indication of impending changes in facility function.

2. (S/D) This report describes significant changes at Pacific Fleet facilities since 1975. Facilities where no significant expansion occurred are not discussed in this report. All usable imagery was used in the preparation of this report. Three maps and 22 annotated photagraphs are included.

Repair Facilities

3. (S/D) Although repair facilities are being expanded fleet wide, the largest and most significant expansion programs are taking place at the three major repair facilities—Dunay Submarine Base and Shipyard Razboynik Bay [redacted] Figure 4), Petropavlovsk Shipyard and Naval Base Seldevaya [redacted] Figure 5), and Petrovka Naval Base and Shipyard [redacted] Figure 6). Expansion at these facilities included the construction of berthing/repair space (including a new auxiliary floating drydock—ARD—at Dunay), machine/repair shops, and support buildings. An increase in naval order-of-battle in the Pacific Fleet during the past five years probably required that repair facilities be upgraded. Repair work on naval vessels, including a Sverdlov light cruiser (CL), a Nanuchka guided missile patrol combatant (PGG), and a Ropucha amphibious landing ship (LST) has also taken place at civilian repair yards at Nahodka and Slavyanka. This practice could continue because of overcrowding at naval repair facilities but may not be necessary when current expansion programs are completed.

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Shipyards

4. (S/D) New construction is not as extensive at shipyards as it is at other facilities but does indicate that the shipyards are being upgraded. A new construction hall, a new pier, and two large gantry cranes were added to expand the capabilities of the Vladivostok Shipyard Ulis [redacted] Figure 7). At

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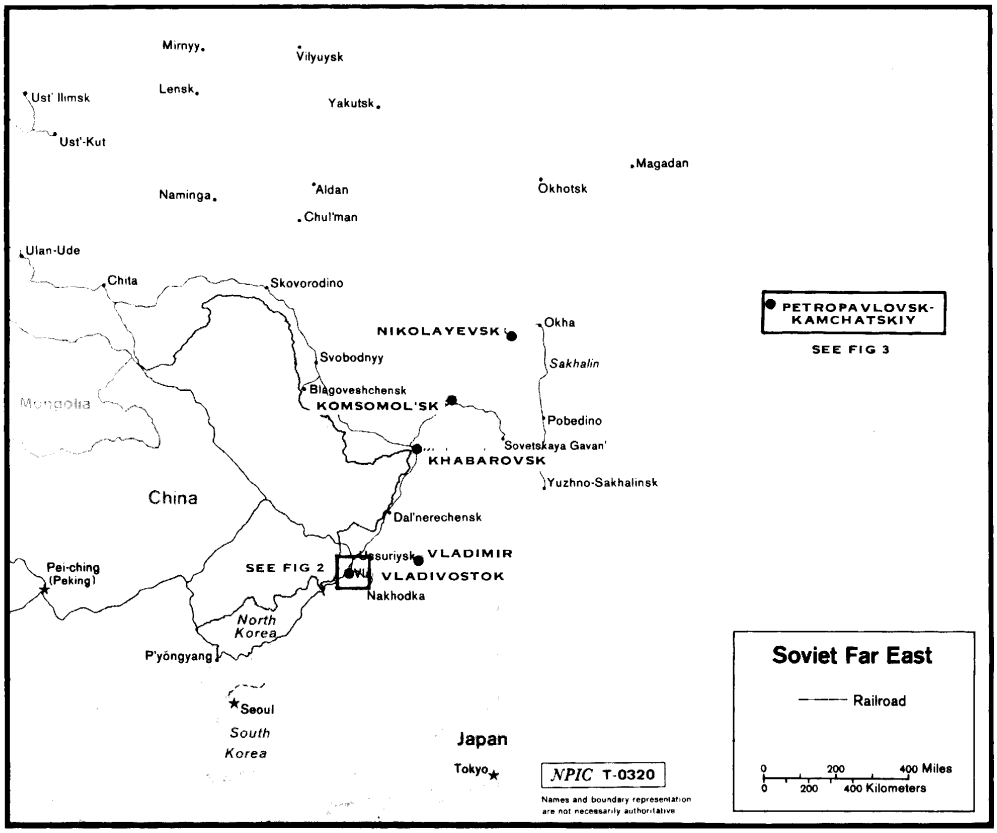

FIGURE 1. LOCATIONS OF PACIFIC FLEET FACILITIES, USSR

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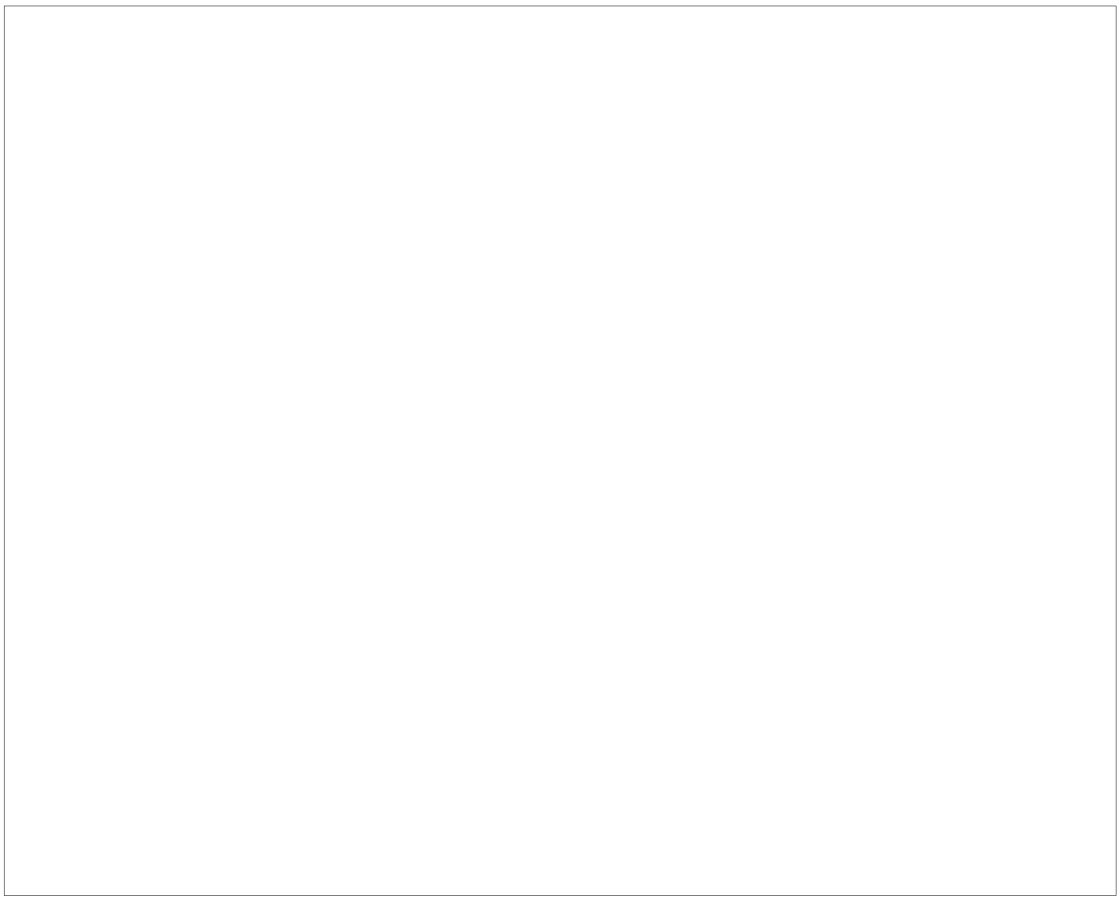

FIGURE 3. LOCATIONS OF PETROPAVLOVSK FACILITIES

Komsomolsk Shipyard Amur 199 [redacted] yard expansion included the construction of buildings which may be used to support a new submarine construction program (Figure 8). Completion of these buildings may be necessary before a new program can begin. At Novolitovsk Boatyard [redacted] the security fenceline was being moved to enclose a larger area (Figure 9). Additionally, a large gantry crane has been erected. The ultimate purpose of this activiy at Novolitovsk is unknown. Expansion at Khabarovsk Shipyard Ussuri South 876 [redacted] Figure 10) included the construction of a four-bay workshop with an administration annex. At Nikolayevsk Shipyard [redacted] a two-bay construction hall with an administration annex was added to existing facilities. Currently, Ivan Antonov cargo ships are being constructed in this yard on open buildingways. The new building may be associated with their construction.

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Operational Bases

5. (S/D) The most significant expansion at an operational base occurred at Vladimir Submarine Base [redacted] Figure 11), where two new piers, several support buildings, and a new substation were constructed. Also, an unidentified support facility was under construction southeast of the missile support facility. This base was formerly a home for G ballistic missile submarine (SSB), and now supports E-II nuclear guided-powered missile submarines (SSGNs) and J guided missile submarines (SSGs). (The expansion of the missile support facility is directly related to this change in function.) At Abrek Bay Naval Base Promyslovka ([redacted] Figure 12), facility expansion included the addition of a covered ARD, construction of support buildings, and a pier/mole. This expansion was probably related to the Minsk guided missile V/STOL aircraft carrier (CVHG) and Kara guided missile cruisers (CGs) being home ported there. Activity at Strelok Strait Submarine Base Pavlovskogo Bay [redacted] Figure 13) included the continued construction on the tunnel and the addition of a new pier. Except for a new pier, most of the construction activity at Petropavlovsk K Submarine Base and Ship Repair Yard [redacted] [redacted]; Figure 14) was in the support areas. Likewise, the bulk of construction at Dunay Submarine Base Konyushkova Bay [redacted] Figure 15) and at Petropavlovsk K Naval Base Rakovaya Bay [redacted] [redacted] Figure 16) was also in the support areas, the exception being a new pier and pier approach at the latter. At Vladivostok Missile Patrol Boat Base [redacted] Figure 17), the quay space was significantly enlarged. This may have been done to alleviate overcrowding at other facilities in the area, and to accommodate amphibious ships which have started wintering-over there. Facility expansion at Khabarovsk (Figure 18) included the construction of a GUS air cushion personnel landing craft (LCPA) hangar at Khabarovsk Naval Base Ostrov Zayachiy [redacted], quay construction at Khabarovak

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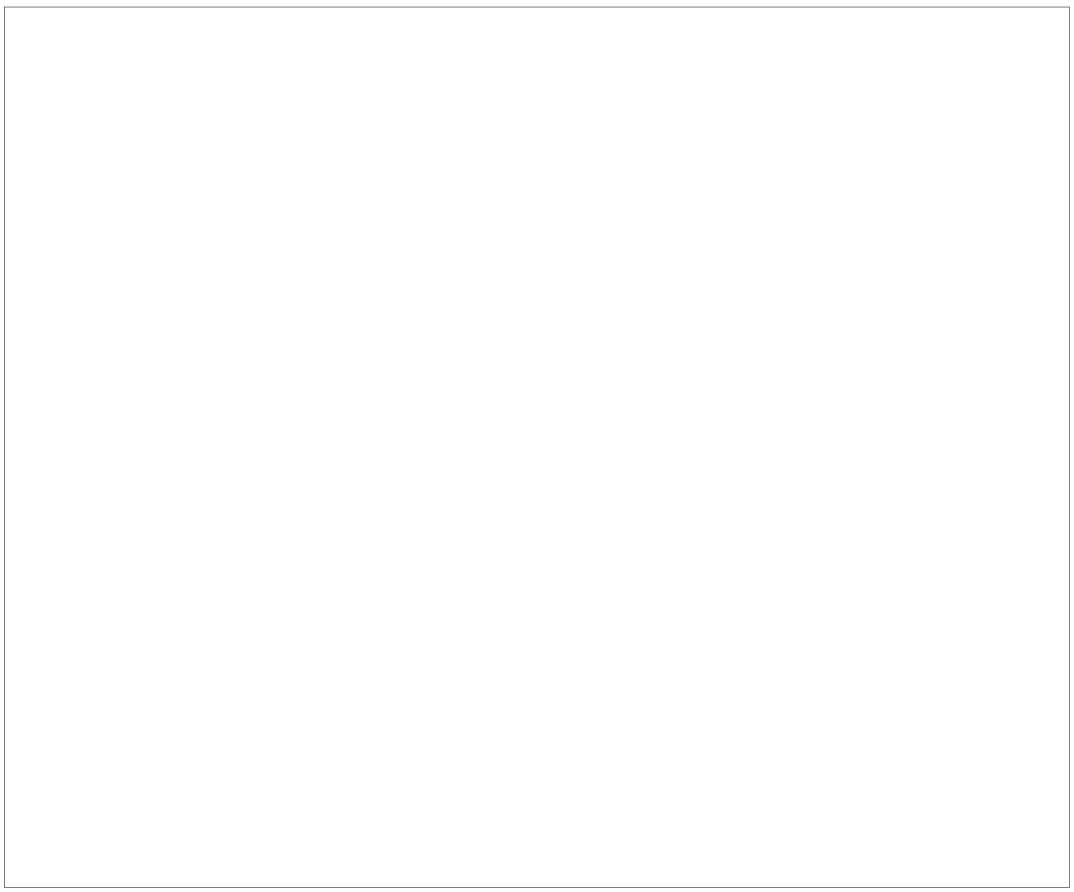

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FIGURE 8. KOMSOMOLSK SHIPYARD AMUR 199

large number of SS-N-14 firing platforms to Abrek could have been predicted based on the earlier construction of storage facilities for the SS-N-14 at Dunay. Likewise, it is reasonable to expect new firing platforms in the Pacific, probably at Strelok, for the SS-NX-16 system now being stored at Dunay.

7. (S/D) Two ASW support facilities are now at Petropavlovsk. The new facility, Petropavlovsk ASW Support Facility Rakovaya [ ], supports the SS-N-14 missile system (Figure 21). The SS-N-14 firing platforms in the Petropavlovsk area are based at Rakovaya. Additionally, during this reporting period, a new bunker was added to the existing ASW facility at Petropavlovsk ASW and Torpedo Support Facility Tarya ([ ] Figure 14). The SS-N-15 missile system is stored at this facility. 25X1 25X1

8. (S/D) Four main cruise missile facilities are in the Pacific—Petropavlovsk Cruise Missile Support Facility [ ] not shown on photograph), Dunay Naval Missile Storage [ ]), Vladimir Naval Missile Support Facility [ ] Figure 11), and Strelok Strait Naval Missile Storage Number 1 ([ ] Figure 22). No significant change occurred at Petropavlovsk, which is a self-sufficient facility. The missile support facility at Dunay is a rail-served central point and has also not experienced a significant amount of growth in support of cruise missiles. The greatest expansion in cruise missile support facilities was the expansion of the support facilities at Vladimir. Expansion of the missile support facility was directly related to its switch from minimal support of the SS-N-5 system for Golf SSB to support of SS-N-3/12 systems for the E-II SSGN and J SSG. Growth at Strelok was not as significant, but this facility probably added the capability to support surface vessels (specifically the Minsk). This is based on the introduction of the SA-N-3 prior to Minsk's arrival coupled with the continued presence of the SS-N-3/12. 25X1 25X1 25X1

9. (S/D) The building of revetted areas for storage of SAM systems has been the major change at Dunay Naval Missile Storage (Figure 23). Two bunkers have been added to Dunay Naval Missile Support Facility Konyushkova [ ]; Figure 24). Although this facility is used for preloading checkout of cruise and ballistic missiles, the new bunkers may be needed to support the SS-N-18. At Petro Kamchat Naval Missile Storage [ ] Figure 25), several new storage bunkers were being constructed and other construction activity was underway. An increase in the bunkers was probably required to support the increased number of submarines based at Petropavlovsk. 25X1 25X1

10. (TSR) In addition to facility construction, a large number of naval vessels have either been constructed in or transferred to the Pacific Fleet in the last five years. The following table shows the naval vessels and selected auxilliaries that were constructed in the Pacific or transferred to the Pacific from another fleet.

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1975

2 Delta-I SSBN	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 Krivak-I guided missile frigate (FFG)	Transfer unit
1 Alligator tank landing ship (LST)	Transfer unit
1 Ropucha LST	Transfer unit
2 Amur repair ships (AR)	Transfer unit

1976

2 Delta-I SSBN	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 Delta-I SSBN	Transfer unit
1 Victor-I nuclear-powered submarine (SSN)	Transfer unit
1 India auxiliary submarine (SSAG)	Constructed at Komsomolsk
2 Krivak-I FFG	Transfer unit
2 Ropucha LST	Transfer unit
1 Dubna replenishment oiler (AOR)	Transfer unit
1 Onega miscellaneous auxiliary (AG)	Transfer unit

1977

3 Delta-I SSBN	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 Kresta-II CG	Transfer unit
1 Krivak-II FFG	Transfer unit
1 Krivak-I FFG	Transfer unit
1 Ropucha LST	Transfer unit
1 Nanuchka patrol guided missile boat (PGG)	Transfer unit
1 Nanuchka PGG	Constructed at Novolitovsk/Vladivostok
1 Amga missile support ship (AEM)	Transfer unit

1978

2 Charlie-I SSGN	Transfer unit
2 Victor-III SSN	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 Kashin guided missile destroyer (DDG)	Transfer unit
1 Ugra AX	Transfer unit
1 Amur AR	Transfer unit

1979

2 Delta-III SSBN	Transfer unit
1 Charlie-I SSGN	Transfer unit
2 Victor-III SSN	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 India SSAG	Constructed at Komsomolsk
1 Kiev CVHG	Transfer unit
2 Kara CG	Transfer unit
1 Krivak-II FFG	Transfer unit
1 Krivak-I FFG	Transfer unit
1 Nanuchka PGG	Constructed at Novolitovsk/Vladivostok
1 Ivan Rogov amphibious assault transport dock (LPD)	Transfer unit
1 Ropucha LST	Transfer unit
3 Lebed LCMA	Transfer unit
1 Dubna AOR	Transfer unit

11. (S/D) In addition, several units have been converted in the Pacific Fleet during this reporting period, including three Golf submarine (SS) and two KANIN DDG. In addition to the naval vessels, repair docks for Petropavlovsk, Dunay and Slavyanka have also been constructed and/or delivered in the past five years. The construction of new pier sections at Petrovka for the Pacific Fleet continues at a steady rate.

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MAP

US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0194-HL, 6th ed, Nov 74, scale 1:200,000 SECRET)
US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet EC0291-6HL, 6th ed, Mar 75, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET/This information [redacted] 25X1

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Soviet 25X1
Strategic Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted] 25X1

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